Basingstoke Observer

Thursday, December 28, 2017 - Wednesday, January 3, 2018

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TUESDAY

Town Centre
Carnival Hall
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Tel: Nikki 0779 5515235

Winklebury
Fort Hill Community School
Kenilworth Road
7:30pm
Tel: Tina 07810 147400

South Ham
Westside Community Centre
Paddock Road
5.30 & 7.30pm
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Overton
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Children Welcome

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Brighton Hill
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Oakley
Oakley C of E Junior School
5.30pm and 7.30pm
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Tadley
Ambrose Allen Centre,
Franklin Avenue
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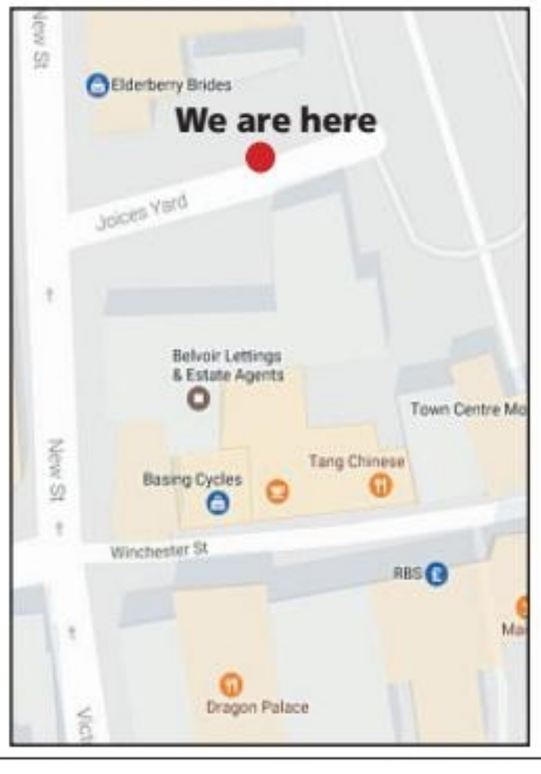

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Basingstoke Observer:

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Distribution & Subscriptions

Telephone: 01256 952180

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Newsdesk

Group Editor:

Karen Neville

01235 516931

karen@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Reporter:

Eva Astreinidou

01235 516930

eva@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Production

Telephone: 01256 952180

studio@taylornewspapers.co.uk

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Review of the year 2017

The year has seen some epic changes and dramatic events across the world and Basingstoke too underwent some considerable changes as well as being full of events of great significance in which the community came together proving what a great place to live Basingstoke is. Adam Flinn & Eva Astreinidou look back at the borough in 2017

January

■ January was the month for announcements as proposals for alternate weekly bin collections, council tax rises and plans to close Fort Hill School were put forward.

■ Hampshire County Council announced its rates would be going up by eight per cent over two years to help fund the increasing need for adult social care.

■ The saga over the bins also got under way as it was revealed that fortnightly grey bin collections were being considered as a way to cut costs.

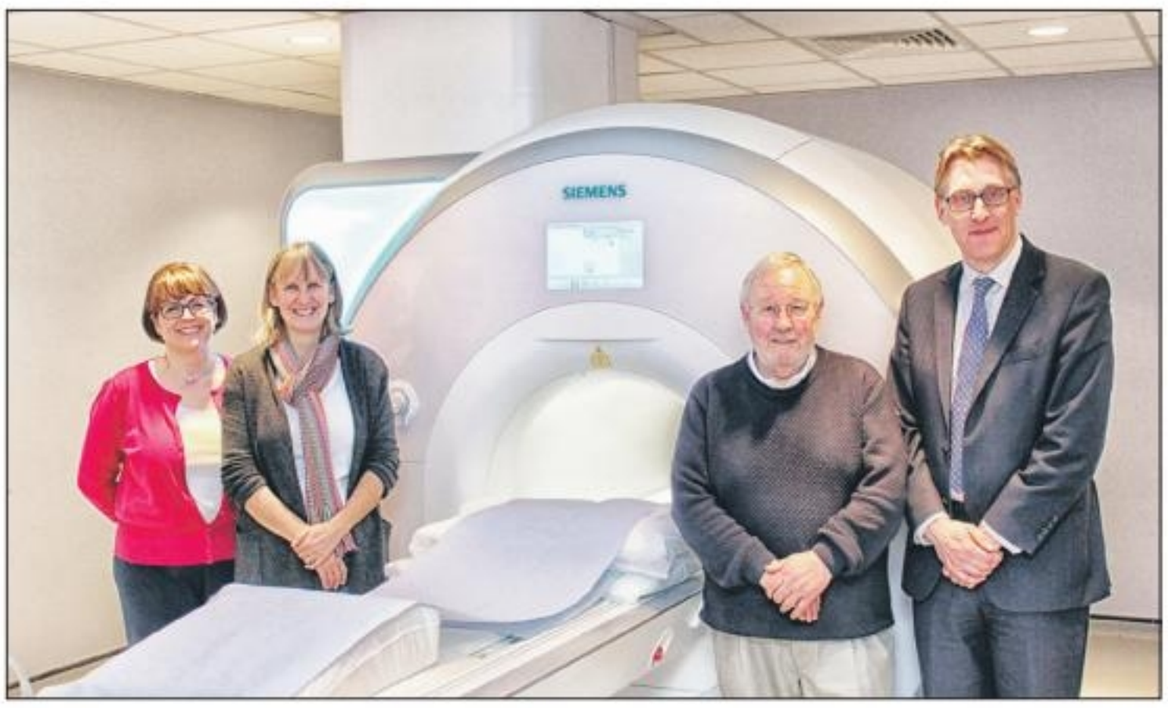
■ A public consultation was launched about closing Fort Hill school – which had seen a drop in pupils – and amalgamating it with Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College.

■ It also emerged that Basingstoke Town FC would move towards becoming community owned, ahead of chairman Rafi Razzak ending his involvement with the club.

■ In court, a 14-year-old boy received an eight-month detention and training order for starting a fire that destroyed an outbuilding at St Joseph's Catholic Church in South Ham.

■ And the first look at Basingstoke's new statue of Jane Austen was unveiled ahead of commemorations later in the year to mark 200 years since the famous author's death.

The blaze at one of the outbuildings at St Joseph's Catholic Church in South Ham



Senior urology nurse specialist Philippa Aslet, consultant radiologist Della Peppercorn, patient Raymond Ripton and consultant urologist Richard Hindley

February

■ The month began with news of a revolutionary new method of detecting prostate cancer being developed at Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital.

This led to one Basingstoke man - 73-year-old Raymond Ripton – not having to undergo a biopsy thanks to a new MRI scan process.

■ There was also progress in the dispute over pensions at the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) after workers represented by trade union Prospect agreed a settlement.

However it would not be until September that Unite would reach a deal with AWE and put an end to industrial action at the two sites in Aldermaston and Burghfield.

■ Also in February the Crown Heights Medical Centre was taken out of special measures after the Care Quality Commission upgraded its rating from 'inadequate' to 'good'.

■ Former borough council deputy leader and North East Hampshire MP Ranil Jayawardena branded proposals for fortnightly bin collections as "rubbish".

■ And socialite Tara Palmer-Tomkinson – who grew up on the Dummer Grange estate near Basingstoke – died from a brain tumour aged 45.

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Review of the year 2017

March

■ It was a long time coming, but the planning application for 3,200 houses at Manydown was submitted to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

The plans also include a secondary school, two primary schools, shops and community facilities on the 321-hectare site, although there is still a bit of a way to go before a final decision will be reached.

■ Meanwhile, the proposal to merge Fort Hill School with Cranbourne College was approved by Hampshire County Council, despite more than 1,000 people signing a petition against the move.

■ The Basingstoke Deane Rotary Club International Boxing Tournament returned in March, with England chalking an impressive victory over challengers Sweden.

■ Changes on the railway beckoned as Hong Kong firm MTR and First Group were awarded the franchise for South Western Trains. It came into force in August.

■ And Basingstoke Town also hit out at what it described as a "lack of help" from the borough council in finding it a new site for a ground to allow the Camrose to be sold off.

Lewis Richardson and Abdesslam Chabi in the ring. Picture: John Hodge

Descendants of L/Cpl James Welch VC gather round his memorial in Stratfield Saye

April

■ Figures published by the Office of National Statistics found that Basingstoke and Deane's women in full-time work were earning more than a quarter less than men.

The issue was discussed by the borough council, where it was agreed to investigate the issue to see what could be done to level things up.

■ AA's multi-million pound move out of Fanum House and into new offices in Basing View was also announced, although this decision would be reversed later in the year.

■ Two companies were fined almost £300,000 after a worker suffered life-changing injuries when he received a huge electric shock while building a new railway operating centre in Basingstoke.

■ More than £2.5million of government funding was given to the Dove House School Academy and Coppice Spring Academy in Basingstoke to help modernise facilities.

■ And a service was held in Stratfield Saye to mark the 100th anniversary of Lieutenant Corporal James Welch's heroic actions in the First World War that led to him being awarded the Victoria Cross.

In sport in 2017... see back pages

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Review of the year 2017

May

■ Political campaigning began to heat up in May, with Hampshire County Council elections and the run-up to the snap general election called by Prime Minister Theresa May for June.

Ten Basingstoke and Deane seats were up for grabs at the county elections, with the Conservatives adding one to take their tally to seven. Labour had two while the Liberal Democrats took the other.

■ Away from politics, two boys were taken to hospital after a fire at a house in Winklebury that police believed could have been started deliberately.

■ Basingstoke man Barry Smart was sentenced to five years in jail for causing death by dangerous driving when he lost control of his car in Hook and hit a tree.

His passenger Kirsty Saunders died in the accident.

■ Steeper fines were introduced for those caught fly-tipping in Basingstoke and Deane in a bid to crack down on the dumping of illegal waste.

■ And history was made as Basingstoke's mayor Jane Frankum handed over the chains to her son Paul in what was thought to be the first mum-to-son handover in the country.

Jane Frankum hands over the mayor's chains to son Paul Picture: Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

Maria Miller speaks after retaining her Basingstoke parliamentary seat

June

■ Residents in Basingstoke and Deane had the pleasure of another election in June, this time to choose their member of parliament.

While it was a disappointing night nationally for the Conservatives, they kept control of the three north Hampshire seats with ease as Maria Miller, Ranil Jayawardena and Kit Malthouse were all re-elected.

■ It was also announced that week that Hampshire County Council would need to make £140million of cuts over two years to plug its budget gap.

■ Gale force winds led to the death of a 48-year-old man on the A287 near Odiham when a tree was brought down on his car.

■ Discussions over fire safety continued following the tragic blaze at Grenfell Tower in London, with residents of high-rise buildings in Basingstoke being offered reassurance about their safety.

■ Van driver Mohammed Zaman was jailed for 20 months after pleading guilty to causing the death of 16-year-old moped rider Mac Sutcliffe by careless driving in a collision near Whitchurch.

■ And a team of people pushed a bed around the perimeter of Basingstoke's hospital to raise money for the North Hampshire Medical Fund.

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Review of the year 2017

July

■ Commemorations to mark 200 years since the death of Jane Austen were held in and around Basingstoke over the summer.

The world-famous author grew up in Steventon, and celebrations in July included the unveiling of a statue in Basingstoke town centre, and a phone box being transformed into a visitor information centre in her home village.

■ The Basingstoke Festival also reached its conclusion, with a big crowd flocking to the town's annual music finale Basingstoke Live.

■ A row also broke out about how to address the issue of homeless people and rough sleepers in Basingstoke, and how best to get them off the streets.

■ Elsewhere, the green light was given to plans for a new retail park on the former Smiths Industries Aerospace site, despite a number of concerns being raised about traffic.

■ And a team of Basingstoke friends took part in the Red Bull Soapbox Race at Alexandra Palace, although their Baywatch-inspired contraption failed to complete the course.

'Jane Austen' addresses the crowd at the opening of the red phone box in Steventon restored in her honour

Queen Mary College students Nathan Piper, Megan D'Souza, Saul Irwin, Leah Thomas and Bethany Harkess find out their A-Level results

August

■ Anxious students across the borough discovered their A-Level and GCSE results in August, with a number of pupils receiving the top grades.

There were lots of smiles as many A-Level students prepared to head off to university or the world of work, while those taking their GCSEs had to contend with a new grading system.

■ Also in August Alton driver Lee Ainsworth was given a three-year ban after being caught on the M3 near Basingstoke while 79 times over the drug-driving limit.

■ Home Secretary Amber Rudd paid a visit to the town to open the new £10million police investigation centre at Viables Business Park.

■ A three-foot long lizard was spotted on the loose in Basingstoke, photographed climbing a garage in Silvester Close.

■ Police launched a crackdown on gangs of youths on bikes who had been cycling recklessly in front of cars and pedestrians in Basingstoke town centre.

■ After a summer of activities, a rise in the number of visitors coming to Basingstoke was put down to the 'Jane Austen effect'.

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Review of the year 2017

September

■ The controversial issue of bin collections reached its conclusion in September as the borough council decided to keep its weekly pick-ups.

Councillors voted against moving to fortnightly collections for non-recyclable waste, although the county council said it was "disappointed" with the move saying it was a chance to improve recycling rates.

■ Elsewhere Hurricane Irma caused extreme devastation to the Caribbean at the start of the month, with a Basingstoke mum and son getting caught up in the storm and sharing their experience of trying to make their way home.

■ Thieves targeted Café Dome in Brighton Hill and stole £1,500 in cash and caused significant damage to their base, although there was a positive ending as the community stepped in to help them in the aftermath.

■ The story of the Jane Austen bookbenches reached its final chapter as after spending the last few months dotted around the borough, the benches were auctioned off and raised more than £70,000 for the Ark Cancer Centre Charity.

■ And a resolution was finally reached with the Unite union over the AWE pensions dispute, almost a year after strikes began.

Tracy Boulton, pictured, and son Eddy were stranded on St Maarten following Hurricane Irma

Runners get under way in the Basingstoke Half Marathon. Picture: Sussex Sport Photography

October

■ Hampshire county councillors pledged to look at alternative ways to plug the £140m gap in the authority's budget after a range of controversial cuts were put forward in October.

Community transport, recycling centres and subsidised bus services were included among the measures, as well as an announcement that council tax would more than likely be going up again next year.

■ Away from the council chamber, more than 1,200 runners took part in the Basingstoke Half Marathon, raising thousands of pounds for local charities.

■ Two prominent campaigns were also launched by the borough council – one to try and stop inconsiderate parking, and another to raise money to help support homeless people over the winter.

■ Work to install a range of flood prevention measures in Buckskin moved a step closer after the county council allocated the project £2million of funding.

■ Education charity Basingstoke Consortium announced it would close before the end of the year due to financial difficulties – later that month, the charity was given a lifeline by joining forces with another charity.

■ And £900,000 was handed out to 16 local projects in the borough to help pay for a range of improvements.

■ Basingstoke celebrated another Day of the Dead with its annual parade over Halloween weekend.

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1x med Lamb Doner
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MEAL 4 £13.99
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1x ¼ Pounder with Cheese
3x Portion of Chips
MEAL 5 £16.99
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2x ¼ pounder with Cheese
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1x Bottle Soft Drink
MEAL 6 £9.99
1x ¼ pounder with Cheese
1x ½ Pounder with Cheese
2x Portion of Chips
1x Bottle Soft Drink
MEAL 7 £10.99
1x Lrg Doner
1x ¼ Pounder with Cheese
2x Portions of Chips
2x Cans of Drink
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1x Portion Chips
1x Can of Drink
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Winnersh
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WALLINGFORD
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Crowmarsh Gifford
OX10 8BW
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Review of the year 2017

November

■ A report on air quality in the town indicated five areas in the borough exceeded the legal limit for nitrogen dioxide levels – a decision-making meeting on whether or not to proceed with further research into the issue is due to be held in January.
■ Animal safeguarding charity RSPCA issued an appeal to track down the owner of 26 horses that were found abandoned and neglected in Highclere.
■ Amendments to counter Hampshire County Council's budget proposals were put forward by the Lib Dems and were not voted through. New options discussed by Tories included a charge on older peoples' five-year bus passes and a £1 fee to use household waste tips. The final decision will be made in the New Year.
■ MP Maria Miller pushed for more action on the issue of harassment, following a flurry of allegations at Westminster.
■ Basingstoke Town confirmed they are intending to upgrade facilities at their potential new home in Winklebury after 70 years at the Camrose.
■ Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council put forward a budget that includes increases to council tax and parking charges, ahead of a decision-making meeting in February 2018.
■ Festival Place welcomed Father Christmas and the cast from pantomime Peter Pan for its Christmas lights switch-on.

Proudly marching to honour those who gave their lives in conflict, RAF Odiham personnel took part in a parade watched by young and old paying their respects Picture: Cpl Rob Travis RAF photographer at RAF Odiham

Millionaire lottery winner Tammie Pickett organised a delivery of Christmas lights to hospice Naomi House & Jacksplace, which has helped the family of her close friend Debbie O'Connor and her four-year-old son Frankie, Tammie's godson. The 38-year-old won the £1,000,000 top prize on a National Lottery scratchcard just before Christmas last year after she popped into a convenience store to treat her little girl to some sweets after a visit to the doctor

December

■ Plans for a new hospital in Basingstoke were scuppered due to financial difficulties following a six-month review by clinical commissioning groups.
■ The much-anticipated Flip Out trampoline park delayed its opening on a busy weekend in December due to damage on its roof from snowfall.
■ A trio of thieves entered a shop in Hartley Wintney, stealing baby milk products – moments later, they returned to take more, stealing more than £200 of milk.
■ Sandy Johnston, 82, from Basingstoke who spent years of his life helping Headway, a charity that helped his son through a serious brain injury after a hit-and-run accident, won a national award for volunteer of the year.
■ Tributes were paid to Councillor Rita Burgess, who spent 30 years of her life serving her community. She passed away on December 3.
■ Five Hampshire police officers were praised for their work helping those whose lives were devastated by Hurricane Irma in the Caribbean in September.
■ The death of 32-year-old Domanique Turner, who fell to her death from a bridge over the A33, was ruled to be suicide.

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Matt has been with Fastfit Service Centre for over 12 years but has been specialising in custom exhausts on just about any car you can think of for just over 15 years.

Sam has recently joined Matt's Longlife team and has his own ramp to work from to ensure they can both turn at least two full systems around every day.

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matt@fastfitservicecentre.com 01256 321800
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Closing date: Friday, January 5, 2018

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There are 3x pairs of tickets to be won. To be in with a chance of winning answer the following question:

Q: Which animal kingdom does OVO explore? Reptiles, Mammals, Insects or Fish?

Prize tickets are Price Level 2-3 and are valid for Tuesday 27th February 2018 7.30pm performance only, strictly subject to availability. All prize tickets will be supplied as e-tickets and are non-transferable. No cash alternative is available. Travel is not included.

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
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Your weekly puzzle challenge

CROSS CODE

10	5	17	20	15	26	18	6	■	6	12	18	26
24	■	■	9	■	11	■	9	■	23	■	■	14
26	■	12	16	1	18	26	24	24	11	6	■	11
23	5	7	26	■	24	■	4	■	15	26	26	16
■	■	5	■	15	22	18	26	6	■	4	■	2
2	11	7	19	11	■	9	■	5	19	26	11	24
11	■	25	■	6	8	12	11	19	■	7	■	26
16	9	12	24	15	■	7	■	24	9	15	12	6
2	■	18	■	26	7	19	12	26	■	26	■	■
20	26	26	19	■	9	■	24	■	3	26	6	15
24	■	19	11	16	7	11	15	5	9	7	■	5
26	■	■	18	■	26	■	18	■	7	■	■	19
15	5	13	21	■	15	18	11	4	26	6	15	22

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 U	13
14	15	16 M	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24 L	25	26

Each number in our Cross Code grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares.

As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

MAGIC SQUARE

UP ON TO OLD PLATEAU

Using all 16 letters of the phrase above, form four words each of four letters which will fit in the grid to form a magic square in which the words can be read both horizontally and vertically.

Quiz Challenge

1. Which castle in England is sometimes called 'The Windsor of the North'?
2. What type of geographical feature is a tarn?
3. For what do the initials DNR stand when written on a patient's notes in hospital?
4. Which Vauxhall car model features in the title of a jukebox musical by Jennifer Saunders based on the Spice Girls?
5. Born in the 14th century, Blanche, Duchess of Lancaster, was the mother of which king of England?
6. Which is the longest name for a letter in the NATO phonetic alphabet?
7. In which sport do winners collect the Vince Lombardi Trophy?
8. In 2015, choreographer Louie Spence took part in the second series of which reality TV show concerning winter sports?
9. To which other TV presenter is Eamonn Holmes married?
10. Which Stoke City, Arsenal and Sunderland central defender won his only two England caps in 1994?

NONAGRAM

R	A	N
C	H	E
U	R	I

How many words of four letters or more can you make from this Nonagram? Each word must use the central letter, and each letter may be used only once. At least one word using all nine letters can be found.

Guidelines:
19 Good; 23 Very Good; 27 Excellent.

Any word found in the Concise Oxford Dictionary (Tenth Edition) is eligible with the following exceptions: proper nouns; plural nouns, pronouns and possessives; third person singular verbs; hyphenated words; contractions and abbreviations; vulgar slang words; variant spellings of the same word (where another variant is also eligible).

WORD PYRAMID

Spell out a 15-letter word or phrase by moving from one chamber to another within the pyramid. You may only enter each of the chambers once and may only proceed through openings in the walls. The first letter may appear in any chamber.

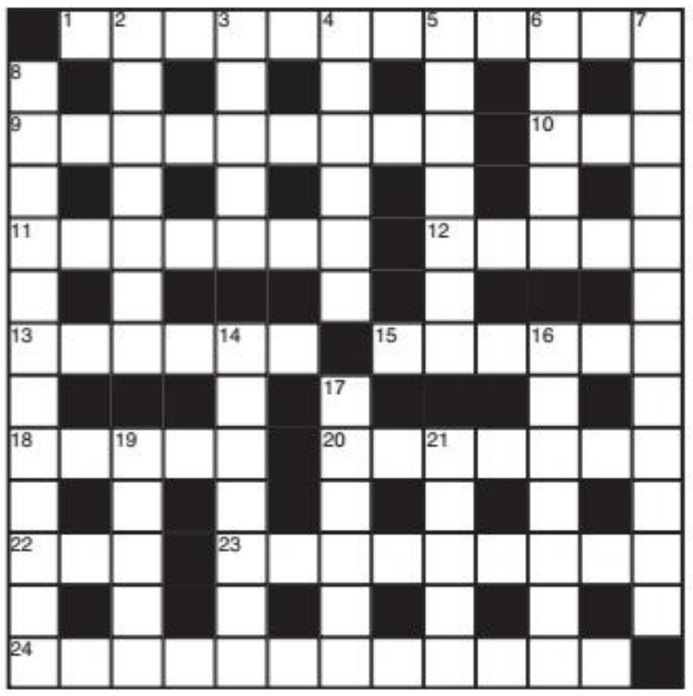
G
E A
P D O
E I L E
N S O N R

FIVE ALIVE

WK	IH	AO	SR	KF
OI	■	MB	■	RI
AD	RL	OE	RN	TE
EL	■	GU	■	ET
NA	OT	TA	XE	YD

Here are two miniature five-square crosswords using the same grid – but the letters have been mixed up. You have to work out which letters belong to which crossword.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. It's the done thing in France (4,8)
9. Paying attention to unhappy Edgar, who has come in to call (9)
10. Nothing left in retrospect (3)
11. Developed pains at church from a vegetable (7)
12. Resort before mid-afternoon is more pleasant (5)
13. Heavenly model made error the year after (6)
15. A bag I'm taking round the country (5)
18. Was including the foreign principality (5)
20. The French ostler has space in a car perhaps (7)
22. Radical backed the German (3)
23. The shape of a number of aircraft perhaps (9)
24. Illness disrupted carver's fleet (7,5)

DOWN

2. More cross about the broken earring (7)
3. Land in the Mediterranean (5)
4. Hackneyed phrase used by one hundred in revolutionary South American country (6)
5. Heard a number of instruments with a dress fabric (7)
6. Greek god in charge of terror (5)
7. I will provide medication or abuse (3-9)
8. Keep moving ahead despite having reporters in the hospital (5,7)
14. Still in an awful fluster (7)
16. Newly-wed accepts order for sedative (7)
17. The girl has time for wine (6)
19. New daily woman (5)
21. She might come before dinner (5)

SUDOKU

Easy Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. **Hard**

1	2	8		7			9	
3	6							
9				6			5	
	7	9	2	4		5	6	3
6				3				
		2	9	8			4	1
	8	6			3			9
	5			2			3	7
7						8	2	5

		5						
				3		8	2	
8	7					5	3	4
		2						
	6			2				
4		8		9				
	8		4	6				
					1			
3		6			8		1	9

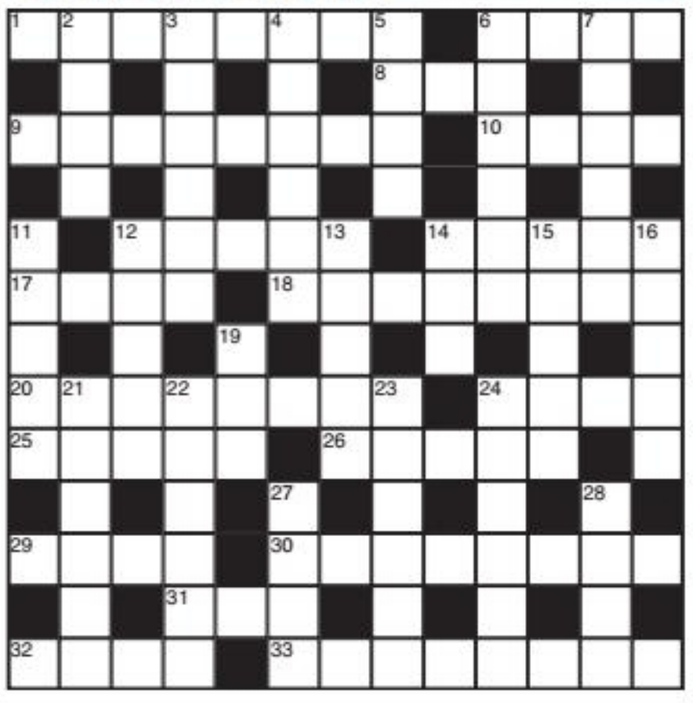
EQUALISER

3 2
3 ◯ 2 ◯ 0
2 2
2 ◯ 2 ◯ 4
1 4

Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down line is the same.

Perform the first calculation in each line first and ignore the mathematical law which says you should always perform division and multiplication before addition and subtraction.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Supplementary text (8)
6. Trim, shave off (4)
8. Drowned valley (3)
9. South African city (8)
10. Fissure (4)
12. Move stealthily (5)
14. Item of furniture (5)
17. Liquid measure (4)
18. Small heap of earth (8)
20. Dreadful (8)
24. Work doggedly (4)
25. Leave of absence (5)
26. Unaccompanied (5)
29. Branch (4)
30. Dig out (8)
31. Slack, careless (3)
32. Lake (4)
33. Amounted to (8)

DOWN

2. Hair treatment (inf.) (4)
3. Compass, scope (6)
4. Northern city (6)
5. Radiograph (1-3)
6. Outcast (6)
7. Replace contents (6)
11. Torrent (5)
12. Trap (5)
13. Marsupial (5)
14. Sheep in its second year (3)
15. Scriptures (5)
16. Song of mourning (5)
19. Humour (3)
21. Strike out (6)
22. Mob (6)
23. Evoke (6)
24. Whimper, cry (6)
27. Adjacent (4)
28. Eyelid inflammation (4)

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SOLUTIONS

QUIZ CHALLENGE: 1 Alnwick Castle; 2 Small mountain lake; 3 Do not resuscitate; 4 Viva (Forever); 5 Henry IV; 6 November; 7 American Football (Super Bowl); 8 The Jump; 9 Ruth Langsford; 10 Steve Bould.

CROSS CODE

14 X	15 T	16 M	17 G	18 R	19 D	20 H	21 K	22 Y	23 W	24 L	25 J	26 E
1 B	2 P	3 Z	4 V	5 I	6 S	7 N	8 Q	9 O	10 F	11 A	12 U	13 C

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD:

Across – 1 Fait accompli; 9 Regarding; 10 Nil; 11 Spinach; 12 Nicer; 13 Orery; 15 Gambia; 18 Wales; 20 Legroom; 22 Red; 23 Formation; 24 Scarlet fever.

Down – 2 Angler; 3 Terra; 4 Cliche; 5 Organza; 6 Panic; 7 Illtreatment; 8 Press onwards; 14 Restful; 16 Bromide; 17 Claret; 19 Lydia; 21 Grace.

QUICK CROSSWORD:

Across – 1 Appendix; 6 Pare; 8 Ria; 9 Pretoria; 10 Rift; 12 Sneak; 14 Table; 17 Pint; 18 Molehill; 20 Terrible; 24 Sloth; 25 Exeat; 26 Alone; 29 Limb; 30 Excavate; 31 Lax; 32 Mere; 33 Totalled.

Down – 2 Perm; 3 Extent; 4 Durham; 5 X-ray; 6 Pariah; 7 Refill; 11 Spate; 12 Snare; 13 Koala; 14 Tag; 15 Bible; 16 Elegy; 19 Wit; 21 Exclse; 22 Rabble; 23 Elicit; 24 Snivel; 27 Next; 28 Stye.

MAGIC SQUARE:

U	P	O	N
T	O	L	D
P	L	A	T
E	A	U	X

WORD PYRAMID:

Old-age pensioner.

EQUALISER:

Clockwise from top left – subtract; add; divide; multiply.
Total: 1.

EASY SUDOKU

1	2	8	4	7	5	3	9	6
3	6	5	1	9	8	2	7	4
9	4	7	3	6	2	1	5	8
8	7	9	2	4	1	5	6	3
6	1	4	5	3	7	9	8	2
5	3	2	9	8	6	7	4	1
2	8	6	7	5	3	4	1	9
4	5	1	8	2	9	6	3	7
7	9	3	6	1	4	8	2	5

HARD SUDOKU

2	3	5	7	8	4	6	9	1
6	1	4	9	3	5	8	2	7
8	7	9	6	1	2	5	3	4
1	9	2	5	4	6	3	7	8
7	6	8	1	2	3	9	4	5
4	5	3	8	7	9	1	6	2
9	8	1	4	6	7	2	5	3
5	2	7	3	9	1	4	8	6
3	4	6	2	5	8	7	1	9

FIVE ALIVE:

(1) Across – Whart; Drone; Noted.
Down – Widen; About; Freed.
(2) Across – Kiosk; Alert; Ataxy.
Down – Koala; Omega; Kitty.

NONAGRAM:

ache; arch; archer; chat; chain; char; char; chin; china; chine; chirr; chirk; chirn; each; enrich; ehu; hair; hare; hear; heir; hernia; hire; hirer; HURRICANE; inarch; inch; niche; ranch; rancher; raunch; RAUNCHIER; reach; rhea; rich; richen; richer; ruche; urchin.

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MONDAY

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9.00am, 11.00am and 1.00pm
Tel: Pat 07500 780553
Kids Corner - Children Welcome

Kempshott
Basingstoke Rugby Club
Pack Lane
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Pat 07500 780553

Oakridge Village
Oakridge Hall for All
Forsythia Walk
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Lynn 07391 138672

TUESDAY

Town Centre
Carnival Hall
Council Road
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Nikki 0779 5515235

Winklebury
Fort Hill Community School
Kenilworth Road
7:30pm
Tel: Tina 07810 147400

South Ham
Westside Community Centre
Paddock Road
5.30 & 7.30pm
Tel: Kirsty 07843 276953

Overton
St Lukes Hall, Winchester Street
5.30pm
Tel: Lynn 07885 765341

WEDNESDAY

Kingsclere
Fieldgate Centre,
Field Gate Drive
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Tel: Lynn 07885 765341

Viables
Viables Craft Ctr, The Barn
The Harrow Way
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Jo 07515 719190

Popley
Melrose Hall, Abbey Road
9.00am & 11.00am
Tel: Jo 07515 719190
Kids Welcome

Popley
Melrose Hall, Abbey Road
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Julia 07528 131797

THURSDAY

Chineham
Chineham Village Hall
11.30am
Tel: Faith 07966 933994
Children Welcome

Chineham
Chineham Village Hall
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Faith 07966 933994

Brighton Hill
Hatch Warren Infant School,
Gershwin Road
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Nikki 07795 515235

Oakley
Oakley C of E Junior School
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Karen 07483 951851

FRIDAY

Tadley
Ambrose Allen Centre,
Franklin Avenue
9.30am
Tel: Jill 07769 201106

SATURDAY

Oakridge Village
Oakridge Hall for All
Forsythia Walk
7.30am and 9.30am
Tel: Lynn 07391 138672

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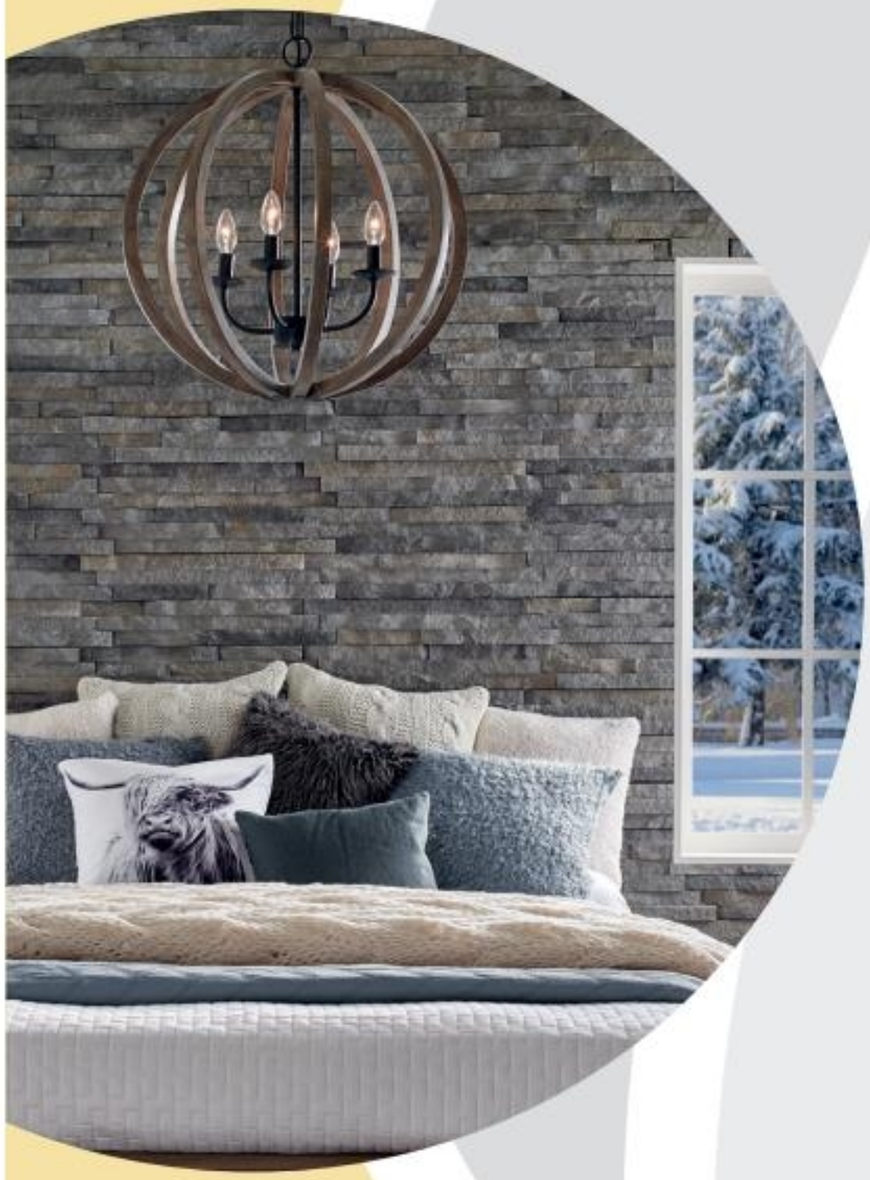

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Sunday December 31st - New Years Eve

BBC 1

TOP TV

1.40pm Bedknobs and Broomsticks

MORNING

8.00am Match of the Day
9.25am Bolt
10.55am The Croods

AFTERNOON

12.25pm BBC News
12.40pm Comic Relief 2017: 'Twas the Thanks After Red Nose Day
1.40pm Bedknobs and Broomsticks
3.35pm Songs of Praise
4.05pm Top of the Pops
5.05pm Attenborough and the Giant Elephant

EVENING

6.05pm BBC News
6.20pm Regional News and Weather
6.30pm Celebrity Mastermind
7.00pm Countryfile
8.00pm Antiques Roadshow
9.00pm The Real Marigold on Tour
10.00pm BBC News
10.20pm The Graham Norton Show
11.20pm Nile Rodgers and Chic: Good Times 2017
11.55pm New Year's Eve Fireworks 2017
12.10am Nile Rodgers and Chic: Good Times 2018
12.50am Michael Mcintyre

BBC 2

TOP TV

5.15pm Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time

MORNING

7.35am Mars Needs Moms
9.00am The Big Family Cooking Showdown
10.00am Saturday Kitchen Best Bites
11.30am The A to Z of TV Cooking

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Shall We Dance?
1.55pm Six Robots and Us
2.55pm Talking Pictures
3.40pm 84 Charing Cross Road
5.15pm Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time

EVENING

7.00pm Robot Wars Special
8.00pm Into the Woods: Stage to Screen
10.00pm Match of the Day 2
10.50pm Live at the Apollo
11.20pm Jools's Annual Hootenanny 2017
1.20am Best of Glastonbury 2017
3.25am Countryfile
4.20am This is BBC Two
6.25am Stick Man
6.55am Frankenweenie

ITV

TOP TV

7.50pm Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1

MORNING

7.45am Mr. Bean: The Animated Series
8.15am Horrid Henry
8.30am A Grizzly New Year's Tale
8.55am Scrambled!
9.25am Countrywise
9.50am Casino Royale

AFTERNOON

12.25pm ITV News
12.30pm All Star Musicals
2.20pm A Very Royal Wedding
3.30pm A Right Royal Quiz
4.30pm Victoria

EVENING

6.25pm ITV News London
6.35pm ITV News
6.50pm Cannonball Splash Hits
7.50pm Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1
10.15pm The Real Full Monty
11.45pm ITV News
12.10am Parenthood
2.15am Take Me Out
3.20am Through the Keyhole
4.10am ITV Nightscreen
6.00am Dino Dana
6.25am Super 4
6.55am Share a Story

Channel 4

TOP TV

5.25pm Britain's Wildest Weather 2017

MORNING

7.35am Frasier
8.25am F1: Grand Prix
9.30am Sunday Brunch

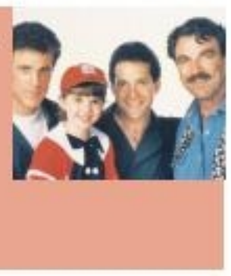
AFTERNOON

12.30pm The Simpsons
1.55pm We Bought a Zoo
4.20pm Channel 4 News
4.25pm Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast
5.25pm Britain's Wildest Weather 2017

EVENING

7.00pm Amazing Spaces Snow and Ice Special
8.00pm The Crystal Maze
9.00pm Alan Carr's New Year Specstacular 2017
11.00pm Big Fat Quiz of the Year
1.00am Gogglebox 2017
2.55am The Crystal Maze
3.50am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
4.40am Location, Location, Location
5.35am Come Dine with Me
6.05am Jamie's Cracking Christmas
6.15am Flash Gordon

Channel 5



TOP TV

12.55pm 3 Men and a Little Lady

MORNING

9.15am Shimmer and Shine
9.30am Digby Dragon
9.40am Peppa Pig
9.50am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
10.05am Olly the Little White Van
10.20am Football on 5

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Alaska: A Year in the Wild
12.55pm 3 Men and a Little Lady
2.55pm Groundhog Day
3.55pm 5 News
4.00pm Groundhog Day
5.00pm The Lego Movie

EVENING

7.00pm Brick by Brick: The Lego Story
8.00pm World's Strongest Man 2017
8.50pm 5 News Weekend
9.00pm When TV Goes Horribly Wrong
11.55pm Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights
12.50am Super Casino
3.10am World's Strongest Man 2017
4.00am Cruising with Jane McDonald
4.50am House Doctor
5.20am Wildlife SOS
5.50am Chinese Food in Minutes
6.00am Puffin Rock
6.05am Poppy Cat

Monday January 1st - New Years Day

BBC 1

TOP TV

3.30pm Blue Planet II

MORNING

9.00am Cars 2
10.40am How to Train Your Dragon: Legend of the Boneknapper Dragon
10.55am Bedtime Stories

AFTERNOON

12.25pm The Highway Rat
12.55pm The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message
1.00pm BBC News
1.15pm A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong
2.05pm Shrek Forever After
3.30pm Blue Planet II
5.00pm Maleficent

EVENING

6.30pm BBC News
6.45pm Regional News and Weather
6.55pm Grandpa's Great Escape
8.00pm EastEnders
9.00pm McMafia
10.00pm Mrs. Brown's Boys
10.30pm BBC News
10.50pm Regional News and Weather
11.00pm Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull
12.55am The Graham Norton Show
1.55am Weather for the Week Ahead
2.00am BBC News
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

TOP TV

7.00pm Reindeer Family and Me

MORNING

8.15am The Big Family Cooking Showdown
9.15am The Big Family Cooking Showdown
10.15am New Year's Day Concert Live From Vienna 2018

AFTERNOON

12.45pm Natural World
1.35pm Dances with Wolves
4.25pm The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message
4.30pm Final Score
5.30pm The Perfect Morecambe and Wise

EVENING

6.00pm Eric and Ernie's Home Movies
7.00pm Reindeer Family and Me
8.00pm Only Connect
8.30pm Christmas University Challenge 2017
9.00pm Sue Perkins and the Chimp Sanctuary
10.00pm Noah
12.10am Frankie Boyle's 2017 New World Order
12.40am Romesh Ranganathan: Irrational Live
1.40am Festival Tales: Edinburgh at 70
2.40am The Highway Rat

ITV

TOP TV

3.30pm Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

MORNING

7.25am Horrid Henry
8.25am Mr. Bean
8.55am Scrambled! Sketch Show
9.25am Cannonball!
10.25am You've Been Framed! Gold
10.55am 50 Greatest Harry Potter Moments

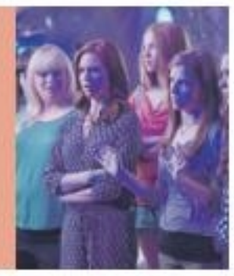
AFTERNOON

12.45pm ITV News
1.00pm ITV Racing: Live from Cheltenham
3.30pm Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
5.45pm Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs

EVENING

6.40pm ITV News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Coronation Street
8.00pm Spectre
10.45pm ITV News
11.05pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show
11.35pm Bear's Mission with Anthony Joshua
12.30am Jackpot247
3.00am The Jeremy Kyle Show
3.55am ITV Nightscreen
5.05am The Jeremy Kyle Show
6.00am Good Morning Britain

Channel 4



TOP TV

9.00pm Pitch Perfect 2

MORNING

8.15am Thunderbirds
10.05am The Simpsons
11.35am The Cat in the Hat

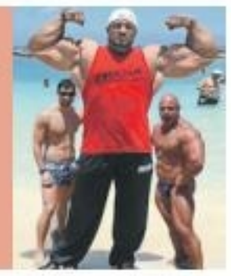
AFTERNOON

1.10pm Hugo
3.35pm Ice Age: The Meltdown
5.20pm Channel 4 News
5.30pm Mrs. Doubtfire

EVENING

7.40pm The Great Festive Bake Off
9.00pm Pitch Perfect 2
11.15pm First Dates
12.20am The Price is Right
1.15am Speed 2: Cruise Control
3.20am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
4.10am Location, Location, Location
5.05am Come Dine with Me
6.00am Kirstie's Handmade Christmas
6.20am 3rd Rock from the Sun

Channel 5



TOP TV

6.30pm World's Strongest Man 2017

MORNING

7.10am Floogals
7.20am Shimmer and Shine
7.40am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
7.55am Thomas and Friends
9.25am On the Town
11.25am Oliver!

AFTERNOON

2.10pm Mrs Caldicot's Cabbage War
4.20pm The Hundred-Foot Journey

EVENING

6.30pm World's Strongest Man 2017
8.00pm The Two Ronnies
10.00pm Britain's Greatest Ever Double Acts
12.50am Football on 5
1.40am Super Casino
3.10am World's Strongest Man 2017
4.00am Cruising with Jane McDonald
4.45am Access
4.55am House Doctor
5.20am Wildlife SOS
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Skoda Kodiaq SE L 1.4TSi 150PS 4X4 DSG

In seventh heaven

By **Tony Yates**

I was starting to get a little worried that we were not seeing any new seven- seaters in the world of motoring anymore – so, when I heard Skoda was going to introduce us to the new Kodiaq, which just happens to have the extra seating I'm talking about - I was very happy indeed, because for a large family or people who pretty much act as a taxi driver for everybody else in their life, this must have been some very welcome news indeed.

Of course being seven-seated does not mean it's slow and like steering a boat – in fact it's actually more like a limousine on wheels. Ok, it's not an actual limo – but it does have an interesting array of equipment and storage for all those times when a big car really is the saviour of the day.

Power and efficiency

My test car was fitted with a 150PS 1.4-litre petrol engine; its performance is good, but not what I would call 'racy' – but it does get a move on once you get into the power band of that turbo. 0-62mph comes in around 10sec – and you can expect fuel consumption figures to easily reach 37-40 mpg combined. Top speed is also around 119mph and because it's a Skoda – you get all the usual energy saving devices such as; Stop/Start etc.

On the road

Firstly - I am so impressed by how the Kodiaq dealt with the lumps and bumps on our roads. Secondly, this a 4x4 - which basically means it can to a certain degree handle off-road driving – although, I doubt you will ever feel the need to drive it around in the mud like a hooligan.

Into the corners it also feels very controlled and steady – and when pushed to its limits, there were no nasty surprises and nothing unexpected happened. But, and it's a tiny one – the Kodiaq does have a small amount of gearbox lag (DSG) in Normal mode. If I was you, I would keep it in sport mode pretty much all the time. Apart from that small niggle - the Kodiaq is rather good and even better with its excellent 4X4 capabilities – what more could you possibly ask for.

Safety and technology

Inside, looks great, and it has a nicely trimmed cabin which is something Skoda has worked on a lot over time. Rear leg room is also massive thanks to the movable rear seats configuration. The Kodiaq will easily accommodate seven people or large family with ease. The quality and feel inside the cabin is also very good thanks to Skoda's excellent build quality.

The level of standard equipment on the SE L version starts with dual zone air conditioning, 19" Sirius alloy wheels, cruise control, black roof rails, heated front seats, ABS, EBV, MSR, ASR, EDS, DSR & ESBS, LED daytime running lights, LED rear lights, rear parking sensors, electronically operated boot, KESSY keyless system, an umbrella in the front doors, Alcantara upholstery and 7 airbags. This is just a small amount of what you can expect to find on what I consider to be a very well equipped car where everything you will ever need is on hand to make life just that little bit easier.

• *A new seven seater which offers something for every need*

To sum up

The Kodiaq is perfect for anyone looking for a family vehicle that has rugged looks, exceptional safety features and some very clever technology - meaning it is more than capable of handling most off-road situations, slippery roads or rough ground with ease. Plus the occasional shopping trip.

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FREE half bag of sand in a 800 kilo size bag. To be collected Tel: 01256 397153

LADIES modern winter coats inc faux suede and faux fur. Some unworn. 16-18. £7.50 each. Wardrobe space needed. Tel: 07762874326.

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3 tube halogen heater. 4 years old £10 Tel: 01256 850300

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YAMAHA piano in box. New with stand/book. 52 keys. Only £170. Willie Barrie boots, small, new £20. Tel: 01256 541829

SNOW White cottage and accessories. VGC £35. Mobile phone. Nokia 1320 little used. VGC Only £160 Tel: 01256 541829

VINTAGE leather cabin trunk with labels. £50. View Basingstoke. Cash only. Tel: 01256 468783

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5th March - 9th March	£133	9th April - 13th April	£154

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17th June - 22nd June	£222	8th July - 13th July	£242

6 Night Breaks

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BED, single light wood effect bed frame with mattress. Nearly new, hardly used. £65 Tel: 07966661945

LADIES bicycle for sale. Bargain at £30 Tel: 01256 321103

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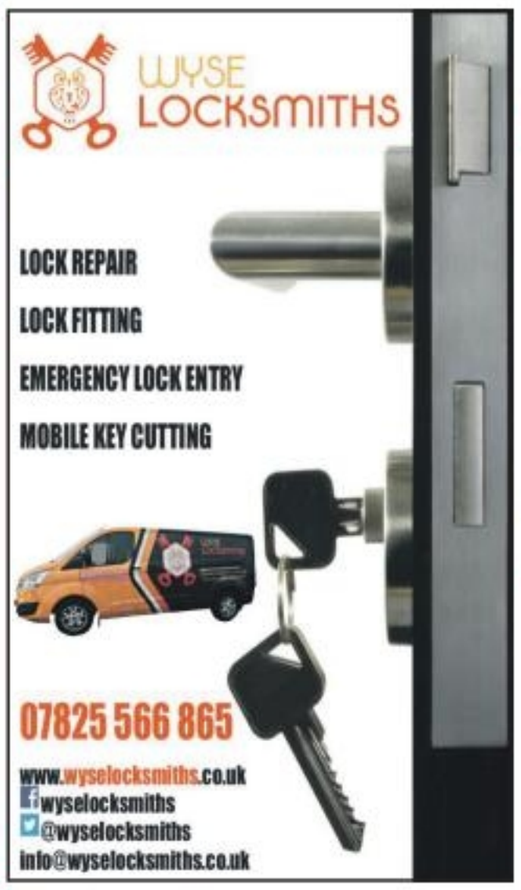

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ABS trainer. Folds flat. New bench style. £35 ono. Tel: 01256 358460

FOLDING bed. Excellent condition. Used few times only. Single. Buyer collects £40 Alton Tel: 01420 86137

SETTEE. Three seater settee. Light coloured muted patter cream blue pink. £40 Tel: 01256 882206

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BBQ large outback charcoal BBQ with cover £15 Tel: 01256 882206

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RIGID fish pond liner, stepped 8 ft by 5ft. Never used £120 ONO Tel: 01256 352184

BAOTIAN moped. 50cc 2007 plate. 2,500 miles on clock. Ex condition. £500 Tel: 01256 352184

LARGE remote controlled Harley Davidson bike model. £25 ONO Tel: 01256 352184

THREE car manuals for sale. £5 each. Ford Focus, Ford Mondeo, Ford Sierra Tel: 01256 331023

PVC Window. 6' x 4' as new £15 Tel: 01189 81230

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THREE small table for lamps. £5 each. Tel: 01256 770864

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LADIES mountain bike. Ten speed 26in wheels. 20in frames. Only £30 Tel: 07443425672

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ERCOL drop leaf coffee table. 1979. Excellent condition, No offers £100 Tel: 01189819670

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BOYS bike. Appollo Outrage. Blue and White. 7 Years plus. Good condition. Plus good condition. £30 Tel: 07787 784434

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CEMENT mixer on a stand. Electric barrow mix. Good working order £135. Buyer collects. Tel: 01256 417862

LADIES wool coat, full length navy. House of frazer. Size 18. Cost £160. Worn three times. £60 ono. Tel: 01256 417862

TALKING books. Non fiction. Fiction. 32. 4 single, 26 double, 1 Poldark, 4 tapes. New £25 the lot. Tel: 01256 413557.

ANDREW James hand blender with accessories. Brand new @25. Buyer collects. Tel: 01189 713133

KENWOOD food processor. Brand new in box. £30. Buyer collects Tel: 01189 713133

PIANO keyboard. As new with stand. Yamaha £160. Snow White's cottage. VGC with accessories all £45. Tel: 01256 541829

BLACK leather motor bike jacket. VGC £20 Tel: 01189 667940

LADDER rack for Vectra Mk.2. Buyer collects from Basingstoke. £25 Tel: 07732 003 045

SHOE cabinet. Wood. Depth 24cn, height 88cms, with 74cm. Good condition £20 Tel: 01256 279326

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SET of bowls in bag size 0 and size 3. £50. Tel: 07749 224253.

TWO fish tanks 12"x12", one complete with lights, heater, thermostat, etc, £20. Tel: 07835 635786.

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COMPUTER screen. Dell 14" £15 ono Tel: 01189701008

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TWO ton car trolley jack. Brand new, low profile lift with carry case £45 No offers please. Tel: 07834810290

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FREE two seater settee. Good condition. Free to anyone who wants tpo collect. Tel: 01256 350199

GLASS demi-johns. I have six clear glass and four brown glass all clean. £5 each Tel: 07873 385198

RHINO pipe tube. 3.0M long. Square section. Fully locking with key will fit most roof racks. Tel: 07837 385198

BOILER. Worcester. 3 years old. Serviced. £150 ono Tel: 07876757642

TWO ton trolley jack. Low profile comes with carry case. Never been used. £45 cash only. Tel: 07834810290

PAIR of curtains pale pink lined to fit windows 45x52 £4 tel: 01256 462172

ONE pair of cotsworld bowls shoe size 12 £10 tel: 01256 462172

PAIR desert boots brand new size 12 G Clarks shop price £120 sell for £50 ono tel: 01256 462172

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ELAINE 53, attractive young hearted female, fed up with being alone, so if you feel the same, give me a call, lets get together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429665**

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VICTORIA, elegant smart black lady. 42yrs, loves life, gsoh, sexy in a sophisticated way. Looking to meet a chap of any age, must have GSOH. **Text Only. Box: 4084600**

KATE young looking 54yrs, young outlook, seeking male to share intimate and fun times with no ties. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429451**

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FEMALE, divorced, 58yrs old, looking for a nice man, non-smoker, clean-shaven. I enjoy walking, meals in/out, musical shows and much more. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 5662627**

SUSANNA, 42yrs, very attractive well groomed married lady. Works in London, can travel anywhere but cannot accommodate. If you are willing to meet on those terms contact me. **Text Only. Box: 4038007**

NEW to area, female with no ties and easy to please, looking for genuine man for friendship, dates and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429415**

MONICA, strict german lady, 32yrs, wanting to meet a submissive, easygoing gent of any age. South East/London only pls. **Text Only. Box: 4079865**

PAMELA, mature presentable lady, well educated, solvent, very young at heart. Hoping to meet presentable gent. Call me. Or text if you prefer. I promise to get back to you. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429329**

JOANNA, 34, stunning tall slim brunette, WLTM older male for mutual spoiling. Too good to be true? No I am the real deal. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429395**

AISHA, petite Asian lady, just 23yrs, living at home but hoping to meet a sophisticated, well travelled man to teach me the ways of the world. Pls be discreet as my parents are very strict. **Text only. Box : 4003844**

SARAH 35, recently divorced, slim 5ft 7ins, pretty, seeks male up to 50yrs for meals out hopefully leading to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429385**

TABITHA, attractive well groomed lady, 32yrs, own house, good job, hoping for some naught text chat with older gent. **Text Only. Box: 4028177**

JACKIE 40, slim easygoing blonde, works too hard, needs sincere male to help liven up her free time. Looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429381**

ANNA, 53yrs, attractive blonde lady, with lovely curves. Seeking man any age for no strings discreet fun. **Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box: 429721**

TAMMY, sincere mature lady, easygoing animal lover. Loves travel, eating out etc. Call me if you are interested in a chat. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429333**

ANGELA, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633**

MARIELLE, 45yrs, curvy attractive lady, likes older men. I'm married so you must be discreet. Lets meet up, and make each other smile again. Call me and lets get to know each other. **Tel: 0906 515 3039 Box: 426853**

ATTRACTIVE widowed lady, 70yrs but looks much much younger. GSOH, fun loving. WLTM man 67+ for loving tender relationship. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429327**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673**

LINDA, late 50s lady, promises to call you back if you text or call. She's attractive and waiting to meet you. You must be 40+ with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429325**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715**

man seeking

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MALE, 65, widower, WLTM lady for companionship and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429265**

ELEGANT smart Black man, athletic figure, smart, honest, loyal, would love to meet white lady so we can grow old together. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 6119496**

IAN, 65, 5ft6, widower, looking for a soul mate and to love again. So if you're looking for someone to love and to be loved, I'm your guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429231**

MALE, age 73, wishes to meet lady for friendship. Age doesn't matter. Likes travel and photography. **Text only replies. Mailbox: 5544101**

MALE, 65, widower, WLTM lady for companionship and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429265**

MALE, 62, OHOC, 5ft8, slim, WLTM female, age and status not important, for adult fun. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429239**

IAN, 65, 5ft6, widower, looking for a soul mate and to love again. So if you're looking for someone to love and to be loved, I'm your guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429231**

HI my name is Roy, I'm 5ft6, blue eyes, living in Newbury, looking for a lady between 50-75. I'm just lonely and looking for a relationship so give me a ring please. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 429111**

MALE, 65, widower, likes gardening, football, films on TV, WLTM my soul mate, I'm lonely and looking for love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 No: 429129**

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Sport review of the year 2017

Tomas Karpov has been showing good form once again for Basingstoke Bison
Picture: grantkingphotography.com

Bison charge to top of table after new-look for leagues

Basingstoke Bison

The Herd rounded out their time in the English Premier Ice Hockey League (EPL) with a third-place finish after a tough campaign that saw them finish well adrift of champions Telford Tigers.

Following the departure of several teams the EPL folded at the end of 2016/17, leaving the remaining clubs with big question marks over where they would be competing the following season.

Over the summer it was agreed to revamp the National Ice Hockey League, and Bison took up a place in the South 1 division.

They got off to a fast start in the league winning their first 10 matches in succession.

It was nearly a record-breaking start to the season for Bison who were looking to match a club record 12 straight league wins, but Streatham ended the run in December.

The Club find themselves sitting top of the division with 26 points going into the Christmas fixtures.

The Herd have already claimed the Autumn Cup having taken three victories from four matches.

Things proved more tricky in the National Cup though. Five losses from their nine matches so far leaves them on eight points and second from bottom in the table.

Ups and downs for driver

Rob Collard was in title contention for much of the year. Picture: btcc.net

Rob Collard

Once again Hook-based racing driver Rob Collard was in title contention for the majority of the year, only for his luck to desert him in the final rounds of the season.

Collard is now one of the most experienced drivers in the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC), and was well and truly in the championship fight after seven of the 10 rounds.

That included a win, six other podiums and a run of point-scoring races stretching back into 2016 that would reach 30 races.

However a disappointing showing at Rockingham was followed by a hefty crash in race one at Silverstone that would put him out for the rest of the year.

He did hang on to fifth in the overall standings though to match his highest result from last year and 2012.

Well over par finish to the year for Rose

Justin Rose

The year ended on a high for north Hampshire golfer Justin Rose as he picked up three wins from six tournaments towards the end of 2017 to rescue a slow campaign.

Second place at the Masters looked to be the highlight for the former Tylney Park and Hartley Wintney golf club member until he completed his first treble since 2002.

After finishing on nine under par alongside Sergio Garcia after four rounds, Rose would score a bogey on the first play-off hole to allow the popular Spaniard to pick up his first major.

But since October Rose has cut a dominant figure and picked up his largest winning margin in a tournament in the Asian Tour's final competition, easing to victory by eight shots on 29-under par in Jakarta.

The win followed back-to-back titles at the WGC-HSBC Champions and the Turkish Airlines Open.

The rest of the season's majors didn't yield much for Rose in terms of results as he missed the cut at the US Open and PGA Championship and could only manage tied-54th at The Open.

Capping off a successful year Rose was announced as tournament host for next year's British Masters.

He would finish sixth in the PGA Tour's Fedex Cup rankings for 2017, and 28th in the European Tour's Race to Dubai.

Picture: Asian Tour

Basingstoke demolished Hook in their final league game of the season

Premier spot a possibility

Cricket

Eleven wins over the course of the season helped Basingstoke and North Hants Cricket Club secure second place in the Southern Premier League Division 1.

It was another competitive season for the Bountymen in which they twice beat eventual champions Calmore Sports.

And after Calmore's pitch failed the necessary grading inspection to compete in the Premier Division, Basingstoke could yet take their place there next season.

Elsewhere, Hook and Newnham Basics earned themselves a fifth-place finish in the same division, while Hartley Wintney ended up second in Division Two.

Row continue their good work in the league and cups

Other football

After winning the Combined Counties Premier League title the previous year, Hartley Wintney repeated the trick again in 2016/17 and this time earned promotion to the Evo-Stik South East division.

They've made a strong start to life in their new league as well, and going into Christmas occupied the last play-off spot in sixth with an impressive 33 points from 18 games. The Row also have games in hand.

Along the way they've even knocked local rivals Basingstoke Town out of the FA Cup as well, and began their first ever FA Trophy campaign which culminated in a standout first round performance against Bromley in December.

Hartley briefly held the Vanarama National League side to a goalless draw but the Londoners eventually showed their class with two second-half goals to break Row hearts.

Elsewhere, Whitchurch United were relegated from the Wessex Premier Division after finishing second bottom, while Tadley Calleva were seventh in Division One.

Both teams are now in the same league with Tadley top of the table ahead of Christmas, while Whitchurch are down in 13th.

Sam Argent moved from Hartley Wintney to Basingstoke in October

Observer Sport
Thursday, December 28, 2017 - Wednesday, January 3, 2018

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Sport review of the year 2017: Bison charge up table | More promising performances from Collard | Rose blossoms in late season

'Stoke hoping for more settled 2018 as they prepare to move

BASINGSTOKE Town have endured a difficult year off the pitch, with months of uncertainty over where the team would be playing.

It had long been known that chairman Rafi Razzak would end his involvement with the club in May, but news broke early this year that the Camrose would be sold off for redevelopment.

This led to a war of words between the club, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and supporters over the future of Basingstoke Town, and, by the end of the 2016/17 season, it seemed as if the last game had been played at the Camrose.

However, over the summer as the club became community owned, it emerged that Basingstoke would stay at the Camrose for a little while longer.

And plans are now being worked on for a long-term move to Winklebury, with the club launching a consultation in October on its proposals.

The Dragons confirmed in November that they will play their last game at their 70-year long home in April before moving to Winklebury for the 2018/19 season.

Steve Letch was elected Chairman at the first fully democratic meeting held at the Camrose Clubhouse in November, where an appeal was launched to raise a minimum of £20,000 to maintain a reasonable squad of players.

On the pitch, the Dragons have had a tough welcome to life in the Evo-Stik Southern Premier League after dropping down from the National League South in 2016.

They ended the 2016/17 season in 12th place after picking up 18 wins, eight draws and 20 losses over the course of their 46 games to leave them with 62 points.

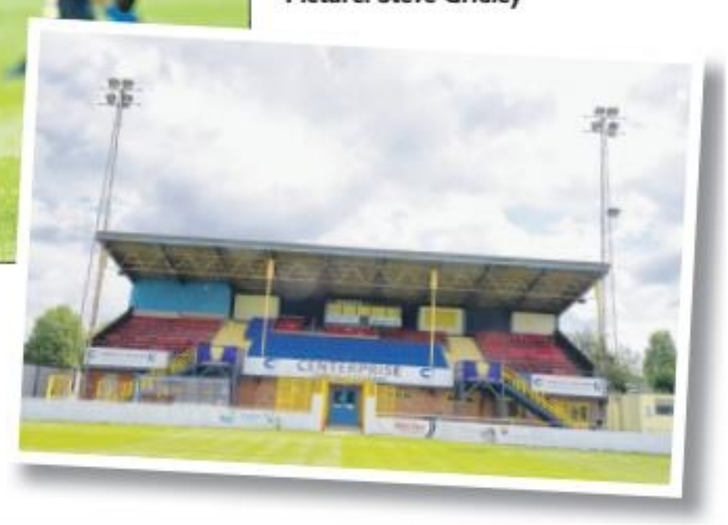
This season Basingstoke are showing similar form, and in their earlier fixtures were bagging the results at the Camrose but were struggling to replicate that on the road.

The 'Stoke picked up only their second away win this season when Sam Argent scored five in a 6-0 hammering of bottom club Dunstable Town in December.

There was also a disappointing defeat to local rivals Hartley Wintney in the FA Cup in the first qualifying round at the start of September.

Heading into the Christmas break Basingstoke were 17th in the table with 28 points.

Sam Smart has been racking up the goals for Basingstoke Town this season and below, 'Stoke will be moving from the Camrose at the end of the season Picture: Steve Gridley



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